



# HQ 11 Signal & West Midland Brigade Community News Jan 19



## Meet the Army In Bromsgrove

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January a 'Meet the Army' event was held at Bromsgrove Prep School. The HQ 11 Signals and West Midlands Brigade Engagement Team Welcomed 164 Guests from businesses, Organisations, Local Authorities and communities within Bromsgrove, Redditch and the Local area to the event which included a presentation by the Army Engagement Group and a question and answer session. Guests were hosted with refreshments by local Military personnel and were able to take the opportunity to browse information stands. From attending this event, PGE Landscaping now have plans to sign the Armed Forces Covenant at an event in Worcester in the near future. 'Meet the Army' events are held within the West Midlands throughout the year. The next planned event will be held in North Birmingham this summer.

Further details to follow.

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust has released details of the Veterans' Community Centres funding programme. A programme offering grants to fund renovations and improvements to veterans' community centres. for Details can be found [here](#)



Col Richard Green (Deputy Commander HQ 11 SigX & WM Bde) signing the Armed Forces Covenant with Perry Riding for The Disabled (RDA) at The Shropshire Armed Forces Hub Launch

## Shropshire Armed Forces Hub Launch

The Shropshire Armed Forces Hub was launched in Shrewsbury on 31<sup>st</sup> January. This event was hosted by Armed Forces Covenant Partners, Lanyon and Bowdler at their offices in Shrewsbury. The evening detailed the plans for the forthcoming Hub and three local companies, Perry Riding for The Disabled (RDA), Red Recruitment Solutions and AJ Case Management, signed the Armed Forces Covenant with Col Richard Green, Deputy Commander, HQ 11 Signal and West Midlands Brigade signing on behalf of the Armed Forces. The Hub will be a point of Contact for the Armed Forces Community in Shropshire and will be run by Hub Coordinator Sarah Kerr. This is one of 4 Community Centres which have been funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund trust in the West Midlands Area.

The Next 'cut off' date for the Armed Forces Covenant fund trust Local Grants is 9am Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

The Covenant in the Community Conference will be held at St James Park (Newcastle United Home Ground) in Newcastle on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019 to book your place contact [Covenant-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Covenant-Mailbox@mod.gov.uk)

Keep up to date with news from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust by signing up to their newsletters [Here](#)

## Herefordshire County Council AFC Operations Group

Following the success of the Operations group created within Shropshire County Council, Herefordshire County Councils Armed Forces Covenant Partnership held the First meeting of their newly formed Operations Group. Operations Groups bring together relevant partners from Military Charities, organisations and the Local Authorities to enable the assistance of veterans within the local area with complex needs. The group creates a communication platform to enable the attending organisations to work together assist the veteran's needs.



## **Community Coffee Morning at RBL Poppy Shop**

The RBL will be holding a monthly community coffee morning. The next Coffee Morning will be held at the Poppy Shop 10:30 till 12, New Street, Birmingham on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Coffee mornings will be held 10:30-12 on the First Tuesday of the month thereafter. All members of the Armed Forces Community are invited to attend



## **Suited for Success.**

In January, the 11 SigX &WM Bde Community Engagement team visited Suited for Success in Birmingham. Suited for success are a charity located just outside Birmingham City Centre. They help unemployed men and women with interview skills and a suitable interview outfits to give them the confidence they need to make that positive first impression and get a job that could change their life. After holding a very successful Ex Armed Forces open day, as covenant Signees, they are keen to develop their work with the Armed Forces Community. For further information please see their website: [www.suitedforsuccess.co.uk](http://www.suitedforsuccess.co.uk)



## **Dates for your Dairy**

- 5<sup>th</sup> March-** Armed Forces Community 'pop in' Coffee Morning at the RBL 'Pop in' Shop, New Street, Birmingham
- 8<sup>th</sup> March 19-** International Women's Day
- 11<sup>th</sup> March 19-** 'Cut Off' For Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust Local Grants
- 19<sup>th</sup> March 19 -** West Midlands Local Authorities POC Workshop
- 30<sup>th</sup> April 19-** Covenant in the Community Conference
- 21 May 19–** '10 Soldiers' production opening night Hippodrome, Birmingham
- 06 Jun 19 –** 75<sup>th</sup> Commemorative date DD landings
- 21-23<sup>rd</sup> June 19-** Ex Midlands Challenge
- 27 June 19 –** Reserves Day
- 29 June 19 -** Armed Forces Day.
- 2-4 July 19-** LGA Annual Conference and Exhibition.

## **Publications**

The Armed Forces Annual Report, published Nov 2018: select full report or summary can be found [Here](#)

The Evaluation of the Veterans Universal Passport – NHS England can be found [Here](#)

Consultation (closes 21 Feb): The Strategy for our Veterans – Secretary of state for Defence , Armed Forces Covenant can be found [Here](#)

Consultation ( closes 08 Mar): Improving access to social housing for members of the Armed Forces, Veterans and their families – Ministry of housing, communities & local government can be found [Here](#)

The FiMT (Forces in Mind Trust) has the following reports available:

[Final Digital Report](#)

[Improving Delivery of the Armed Forces Covenant FINAL](#)

[Transition](#)

## **Future news**

If you have anything you would like to be included in this monthly newsletter, please send it to Hannah Jones (SO3 MCI) Email: [Hannah.jones660@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Hannah.jones660@mod.gov.uk)